

Building Community Resiliency in a Time of Need

ESF 8 Public Health Response to an Active Shooter Incident



Presented by: Lisa Powell

To: 2016 Spring Regional Staff and EPR Coordinators Meeting

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Prevent • Promote • Protect

Emergency Support Function 8

- Public Health and Medical Services has a large role in the emergency operations center including responding to medical needs associated with mental health, behavioral health, and substance abuse considerations of incident victims and response workers.
- In Colorado, many public health departments serve as the ESF 8 lead.

The Incident

Black Friday –
November 27, 2015
11:38am

Active Shooter Report
Officers encountered
active gunfire
4:52pm – Suspect was
taken into custody



Operational Overview

- Notification
- Activation
- Staffing



Incident
Occurs

Notify OEM of
available
assets

OEM puts ESF
8 on standby
or Activates

Virtual
Activation

Behavioral Health Response



- First time working with victims advocacy
- Many more victims than those at the Planned Parenthood building
- Community response vs. First Responders

The Community Recovery

- Began very quickly
- Hotline # in media Friday
- UCCS Vigil - Saturday
- Recovery Center - opened Sunday-Thursday
 - Numerous “vendors”
 - Victims of Halloween shooting also seeking support services
 - Non-traditional services well received



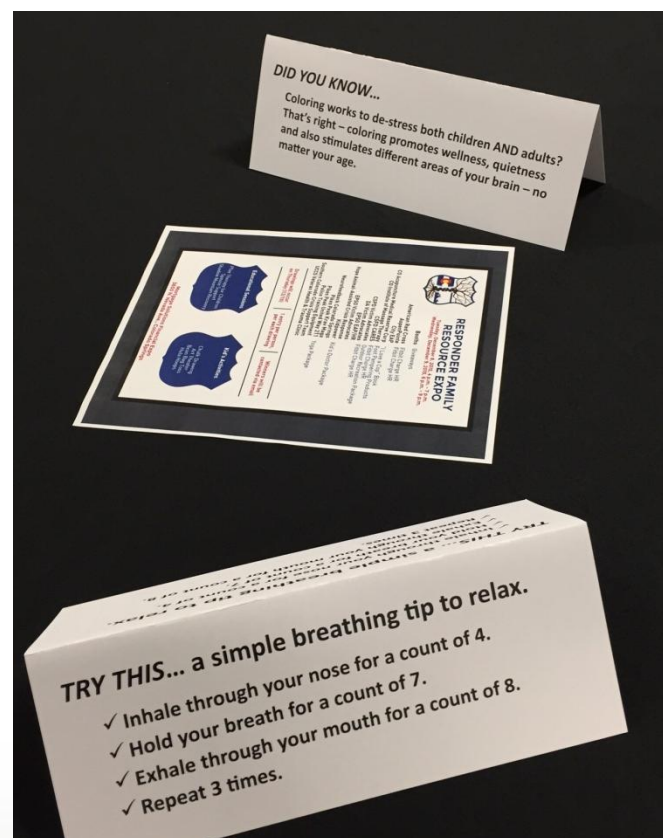


Responder Family Resource Expo

Alone we are strong

Together we are stronger

- Held for 2 days
- 300 participants
- Focus on families of law enforcement responders
- Activities for children
- Recovery resource tables, door prizes, kids activities, food and fellowship



Improvement planning

- Suggestions from Tri-County
 - ESF 8 Discipline specific appendices
 - Hospitals
 - Fatalities management
 - United Way/211
 - Behavioral Health
 - EMS
 - I would add Victims Advocacy as well

Immediate learning moments

- Practice working remotely- know how to access contacts, plans, tools
- Meeting new partners is easier with introductions by trusted sources
- Coordination was key; it ultimately proved most valuable to behavioral health response
- Public information is crucial; coordinated public information is imperative for the public

Final Thought

**THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS WHEN
PUBLIC HEALTH AND LAW
ENFORCEMENT WORK TOGETHER**

